



WATERVILLE PARKS AND REC 2021 COED SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES AND GUIDELINES

League fees and deadlines:

- 1) League fee – League fee for the 2021 season is \$350. Checks should be made payable to the City of Waterville. League fees are due no later than **April 28, 2021**. League fees not paid by that date will be subject to a late fee of \$25. Teams that have not paid the league fee in full by **June 1st** will be ineligible to play in the end of the season playoffs, unless payment arrangements have been made with a Waterville Parks and Recreation staff member.
- 2) Non-Resident fees – Any player that is not a current resident of the City of Waterville must pay a non-resident fee of \$5. Non-resident fees are due no later than **June 15th**. Teams that have not paid non-resident fees by **July 15th** will be ineligible for the end of the season playoffs, unless payment arrangements have been made with a Waterville Parks and Recreation staff member.
- 3) Refunds – There will be no refund of your league fee once the season has started, or if you are prohibited to play on a Waterville field. Any refunds prior to the start of the season, removal from the schedule at any point during the season, and end of the season playoff eligibility, are at the sole discretion of the Parks and Recreation Department.

Rosters:

- 1) A final roster, including all team players and signatures, is due *no later than* **June 15th**. Changes to rosters can be made up until the team's fourth scheduled game. Changes after that are made at the discretion of the Parks and Recreation Department. *If the roster is not submitted by June 1st, teams may be removed from the schedule until the roster is submitted.* Removal from the schedule is at the sole discretion of the Parks and Recreation Department. Any team that has not completed and submitted a roster by **July 1st** will be ineligible for the end of season playoffs.
- 2) Women players may be registered on **TWO** rosters and participate on **TWO** teams. Male players may be registered on **ONE** roster and participate on **ONE** team.
- 3) Players must be at least 16 years of age. Children (age 15 and under) are not permitted in the dugouts or on the playing field at any time. Any player under the age of 18 must have a parent sign the roster form in order for them to be eligible to play.

Cancellations, Game Times & Forfeits:

- 1) **Only captains may call in for cancellation information.** The Parks and Recreation Department will determine rainouts. We may cancel games based on the individual field condition. Therefore, there will be times when some fields are open and others are not. Parks and Recreation will notify teams through multiple avenues whenever possible, including email, text and/or Facebook posts. **We will not call captains for cancellations.** Any player can be added to the email and text list by contacting our office.
- 2) Any team found on a field after a rain cancellation, or when an employee of the Parks and Recreation Department deems the field unplayable will be sanctioned as the Parks and Recreation Department deems necessary. Waterville Parks and Recreation will review each violation individually and will determine the sanction at that time.
- 3) Should games be canceled at the field by the umpire, both teams are responsible for compensating the umpire. If a team forfeits a game at the field, the team who forfeits will pay the official \$30. If both teams forfeit, each team will pay \$15. Teams will be removed from the schedule for any forfeit fees owed until they are paid to the umpire or Waterville Parks & Recreation. Games missed for non-payment of forfeit fees will count towards the three forfeit rules (See Rule #4).
- 4) If a team forfeits three (3) games, they will be removed from the league with no refund. A game is considered a forfeit if there is no game played. If teams prior to the game decide to play even though one team does not have enough players, this is not considered a forfeit towards the three forfeit rules. Games that were scheduled for the remainder of the season may be rescheduled. Rescheduling is at the sole discretion of the Parks and Recreation Department.



WATERVILLE PARKS AND REC 2021 COED SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES AND GUIDELINES

- 5) There is no forfeit time past the scheduled game time. Games will be scheduled at 6:30pm and 7:30pm, whenever possible. Games will be played Monday – Friday evenings.

General League Rules:

Games will be governed by current USA Softball Coed Softball Playing Rules with the following exceptions:

- 1) Each team should have a **minimum** of four women on the field the entire game. If less than four women are present, teams may field a **MAXIMUM** of six men. At no time will a team play with less than two women on the field.
- 2) A game may be played with only 2 more male players than female players. For example, if you have 4 women playing, you may only have 6 men playing in that game. For every female playing in that game, you may add 2 more male players for that game. The only exception to this rule is if you have 3 females, you may field 6 men.
- 3) Whenever a team is playing with less than four females, an out will be taken when the absent female(s) position(s) in the batting order appear. If you have female players on the bench, they must play. You cannot sit them on the bench and keep them out of the batting rotation or from playing on the field.
- 4) Metal cleats are not permitted.
- 5) The **HOME** team will be responsible for keeping the official book.
- 6) The ASA casual profanity rule will be enforced.
- 7) Prior to the start of the game, each team will provide an umpire with a line-up card, and \$15. The home team is responsible for providing two softballs to the umpire. Teams will provide softballs (new or used). Softballs must be .52 core/300 compression (12"). Waterville Parks & Recreation will supply game balls for the playoffs only.
- 8) Teams must have matching uniform shirts with numbers on the back. Hats are not required. Teams will have until the fourth scheduled game to meet this requirement. Each player not meeting this requirement by the fourth game will not be eligible to play in that game.
- 9) Alcohol is prohibited in or around playing areas. This includes parking lots near the fields, dugouts and in spectator areas. Smoking is prohibited at all fields located on school grounds, including the parking lots at Reed and Herlihy. Smoking is prohibited on all fields, in spectator areas, and in dugouts.
- 10) Three over the fence homeruns are allowed per team per game. Additional over the fence homeruns constitute an out.
- 11) If a player or coach is ejected from the game by the umpire, he or she will not be permitted to participate in the next scheduled game. If a player or coach is ejected a second time by the umpire, he or she will not be permitted to participate in the next **three** scheduled games. A third ejection will result in suspension for the remainder of the season. Waterville Parks and Recreation will review each violation individually and will determine if further sanctions are warranted. Players that have been suspended are not permitted in the dugouts or at the field.
- 12) Use of banned USA Softball bats is strictly prohibited. If any member of your team is caught using a banned bat, the player will be banned from playing on any Waterville field for one year from the date that you are caught and the entire team will be warned. If any player from that team is caught using a banned bat after the warning, the entire team will be banned for one year from the date that you are caught. This includes any tournaments that are held in Waterville, whether or not they are sponsored by the Waterville Parks and Recreation department. Your team is subject to an official checking all bats at any time during a game. Teams may go to <https://www.teamusa.org/usa-softball/play-usa-softball/certified-usa-softball-equipment> to verify if they have legal bats. Waterville Parks and Recreation will not determine for any team whether or not they have legal bats.



WATERVILLE PARKS AND REC 2021 COED SOFTBALL LEAGUE RULES AND GUIDELINES

- 13) Courtesy runners are allowed if the player is unable to run due to an injury occurring on the playing field. If a player runs beyond first base, they can not request a courtesy runner unless the injury occurs during that at bat. Courtesy runners will not be used for the same player throughout the game. If a player can not run, they can not be on the playing field. If a female requests a courtesy runner, the last female called out will be the runner. If a male requests a courtesy runner, the last male called out will be the runner.
- 14) Free substitution is permitted; however, to do this, a batting lineup must include **ALL** players and remain **CONSTANT**. Batting order must alternate by gender with a female starting off, and evenly distributing female players throughout the lineup. (See attached examples). At no time will a team be permitted to have female players on the bench, but play with less than four females on the field (ie. if you have four females on the bench, they must all play on the field).
- 15) The pitching arch will be 6-10 foot arch on the pitch
- 16) Outfielders must remain at or beyond the dotted line painted in the outfield when a female player is up to bat until the batter makes contact with the ball.
- 17) Mercy Rule: Games will end when a team is up by 20 runs after 3 innings, 15 runs after 4 innings or 10 runs after 5 innings.

Updated March 2021

Batting Lineup Examples:

3 Females, 5 Males: F M M F M M F M
3 Females, 6 Males: F M M F M M F M M

4 Females, 5 Males: F M F M F M F M M
4 Females, 6 Males: F M M F M M F M M F

5 Females, 4 Males: F M F M F M F M F
5 Females, 5 Males: F M F M F M F M F M
5 Females, 6 Males: F M F M F M F M F M M
5 Females, 7 Males: F M F M M F M F M M F M

6 Females, 4 Males: F M F F M F F M F M
6 Females, 5 Males: F M F M F M F M F M F
6 Females, 6 Males: F M F M F M F M F M F M
6 Females, 7 Males: F M F M F M F M F M F M M
6 Females, 8 Males: F M M F M F M M F M F M M F

7 Females, 4 Males: F F M F F M F F M F M
7 Females, 5 Males: F M F F M F M F F M F M
7 Females, 6 Males: F M F M F M F M F M F M F
7 Females, 7 Males: F M F M F M F M F M F M F M
7 Females, 8 Males: F M F M F M F M F M F M F M M
7 Females, 9 Males: F M F M M F M F M F M M F M F M